The People's Korea

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Happy Birthday to President Kim Il Sung!

Editorial: President's 70-Year Career

On April 15 President Kim Il Sung will be 70 years old and all the Korean people are fervently celebrating his birthday with great joy and emotion.

The world's progressive people and the victims of oppression join the Korean people who regard his birthday as a national celebration, in significantly celebrating it.

On this auspicious day, all the Korean people extend the highest glory and warmest congratulations to the President, reverentially wishing his good health and long life.

Since he was born on April 15, 1912, as the sun of the nation, the President has led the Korean revolution through its long history of ordeals and difficulties, along a straight path of victory and made great achievements in revolutionary struggles and struggles for human liberation.

In the darkest period of the Japanese colonial rule, the President stood in the van of anti-Japanese armed struggles and founded the Juche idea. He led the 20-year-long anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to accomplish the cause of restoring the fatherland for the Korean people and established great revolutionary traditions.

The victory in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle was a historical event which ushered in the dawn of a new glorious era unprecedented in the thousands-of-years long history of our nation.

After the liberation, the President advanced a unique line of building a new society and founded the Workers' Party of Korea, carrying out an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution. Advancing a unique line of people's power, he founded the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the genuine fatherland of the Korean people. He established the Korean People's Army and led the Fatherland Liberation War to victory and thus defended the independence of the fatherland.

Not wedded to conventional formulas or past experience, the President carried out a socialist transformation in the relations of production in a matter of 4-5 years after the war and established on the Korean soil the most advanced socialist system.

Successfully accomplishing the two social revolutions, President Kim Il Sung advanced the line of socialist industrialization and wisely led the struggle for its implementation to fulfill the task of industrialization in only 14 years. Thus, the President turned the country into "a model socialist country" with independent policy decisions, a self-supporting economy and a beautiful national culture.

President Kim Il Sung was shaking hands with foreign delegations at a banquet on the evening of Aug. 26, 1981, the opening day of the Symposium of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production.

Under the above-mentioned wise guidance of the President, the Korean people who had been languishing in poverty in the past, became able to lead proud worthwhile lives as citizens of an independent, sovereign state, being liberated from discrimination and oppression.

In addition, President Kim Il Sung has made an important contribution to the development of the international communist movement, the labor movement and the non-aligned movement. Dealing a deadly blow at the aggressive war policy of the imperialists, the President has made an outstanding contribution to the maintenance of world peace.

It is very natural that the progressive people of the world should praise the President "as a sun of world history" and embrace the Juche idea, calling it Kimilsungism.

At present, the Juche idea wins the sympathy of peoples of the world for its validity and effectiveness and it makes them strive in the struggle to build a new society.

In fact, the creation of the Juche thought by President Kim Il Sung signified the birth of a leading idea of our era. It is also a guideline of a new era, the Juche era. The Juche thought was founded at a time when the struggle of people in the world to defend independence was become active.

Under the banner of the Juche idea and the wise guidance of the President, the overseas Korean compatriots, including those in Japan, strive for national reunification and for the prosperity of their fatherland.

Meanwhile, the south Korean people who respect the President, are very active in their anti-U.S., anti-fascist democratic struggle in an effort to achieve national reunification, thus dealing a heavy blow at Washington and Seoul.

The Korean people should make greater efforts to carry on their revolutionary cause, the cause of Juche, which was initiated by the President, and to win its final victory.

It is very significant for the Korean people to solve the question of a successor in accordance with the unanimous will of the people because the issue of succession has a direct bearing on the destiny of the Korean revolution and socialist construction.

The Korean people, under the leadership of Mr. Kim Jong Il, the only successor of the President, regard the policy of arming all members of the society with the Juche idea as their top priority task, and step up the three revolutions – ideological, technical and cultural –, winning a brilliant victory in the building of socialism.

To achieve an independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland is the most important task of the Korean people at the moment in their struggle to embody the Juche thought.

It is the unanimous desire of the Korean people to achieve national reunification through an establishment of a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo, an independent, peaceful democratic and neutral state.

The establishment of a confederal state will also accord with the desire of the world's people who demand independence, peace and democracy.

Due to the war policy of the United States, mankind faces the threat of nuclear holocaust, and tension runs high on the Korean Peninsula. The U.S. is now staging the largest-scale combined war game dubbed "Team Spirit '82" in south Korea.

Various kinds of persistent military provocative acts of the U.S. bring the already tense situation on the peninsula to the brink of war.

However, the U.S. will not attain "good results" such as they expect and its maneuvers to create "two Koreas" are doomed to failure.

It is the great pleasure and the pride of the Korean people to fight for the victory of the cause of Juche under the wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung.

Deeply aware of the honor of having President Kim Il Sung as their leader, the Korean people will remain further rallied around him and renew their gigantic efforts to achieve a final victory of socialism and the cause of Juche and accomplish an independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

The Korean people, led by the great leader President Kim Il Sung and fighting under the banner of Juche, will always be victorious.

Long live the 70th birthday anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il Sung!

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President Kim Il Sung—Dedication To People's Happiness

By Kim Ho Gyong
Special to The People's Korea

The last seventy years of President Kim Il Sung can be summed up as a record of dedicated efforts for national liberation and for the freedom and happiness of the people. Love for the people marks his career.

Here is a quotation from him:

"... I, as a servant of the people, will spend the remaining years of my life together with them. Nothing is more honorable than becoming their faithful man."

For him, the masses of people are the most valuable of all the things of the world. Dedication to their greater freedom and happiness is his philosophy, code of conduct and unchangeable faith.

Such consideration underlies all aspects of the presidential thinking, energy and practice. It culminates in his greatest contribution to mankind—the Juche thought.

Its philosophical basis is that man is the ruler and decider of every and any thing in the world. This man-centered idea views people as most precious in the universe.

Juche requires its proponent not only to view people as such but also to do everything within his capacity to promote their wellbeing.

President Kim Il Sung witnessed and shared the unspeakable sufferings of the Korean people as homeless during the past dark colonial rule by the Japanese.

So, taking arms in his hands, he fought nearly 20 years of anti-Japanese resistance, which ended with the liberation of the homeland. A final end was put to the miserable chapter of Korean history in which the Koreans were left homeless.

But for the timely and effective leadership of President Kim Il Sung, the humiliating slavish status of the Korean nation would have continued. Even in case of its liberation, its people could not have lead a happy life under the same socialist system as they do today.

The post-liberation concern of President Kim Il Sung was how to prevent the repetition of the past miserable homelessness and make the population permanently free from exploitation and oppression —in other words, how to enable the people to enjoy an independent life worthy of man.

With Juche as his infallible guide, the great leader put forth an entirely new policy platform whereby to lead the people in revolution and construction. He stood in the forefront of the national effort to build a new Korea.

Two social revolutions—the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and the socialist revolution—were carried out in rapid sequence. All the sources of exploitation and oppression, leftovers from the old society, were eliminated for good, with the once backward Korea converted into an advanced and industrialized socialist state.

Full justice was done to the superb presidential leadership when the DPRK resisted the U.S. imperialist armed invasion during the last Fatherland Liberation War. Leading the whole nation to victory in the war, the great leader managed to safeguard national independence and sovereignty. The nation survived the three-year war.

In brief, the great leader is credited with having beat two imperialisms, Japanese and American, and having led two social revolutions to success, all within one generation. Such leader has been unknown in other parts of the world.

This explains that degree of esteem in which the great leader is held as "the benefactor of national resurrection" and "the sun of the nation." They totally depend on his leadership for glorious victory, happiness and liberty.

The presidential love for the people is always substantial.

Political rights and freedoms are a prerequisite for them to lead an independent and creative life. So thinks the great leader.

In Korea today, sovereignty rests with its people as its rulers. Both the Party (Workers' Party of Korea) and the Government are committed to the improvement of the material and moral life of the population and to the promotion of their happiness, their top-priority task.

The issues of unemployment and poverty have been totally solved many years ago, not to mention the questions of eating, clothing and housing.

President Kim Il Sung had this to say:

"Today, our people are not well off like landlords or capitalists. However, they do not know any worry about eating, clothing and housing. They all enjoy a decent life and work very hard. No poor-rich gap exists."

By the end of 1979 per-capita income reached $1,920, a very high level among the Third World countries.

In 1974, taxation was abolished as an institution, making Korea the first tax-free state in the world. There is no taxpayer in the DPRK.

Food shortage, a critical issue common to many countries, is no longer any matter in the DPRK, a food surplus country. It exports at least more than 500,000 tons of food every year.

Last year, grain output reached an estimated 9.5 million tons. The figure is expected to jump to 15 million tons by the end of 80s, a decade of 10 long-term economic goals.

The secret of this success is in the Juche-based approach to agriculture, whose motto is "rice is socialism." In short, it is another expression of the presidential love for the people.

This extremely successful agricultural policy is the background against which Pyongyang hosted the first non-aligned agricultural seminar in August last.

When Korea was liberated in 1945, its illiteracy rate was 70 percent. Without mass literacy it was almost impossible to bring about human independence and conduct a successful building of a new society.

Under the brilliant presidential leadership, the illiteracy was completely ended in a short space of time following the liberation of the country. A quick sequence of drastic steps followed: 1956—primary education system; 1958—lower secondary education, the first free education of the level in Asia; and 1974—the 11-year free and compulsory education.

The great leader said:

"We attach great importance to the education of young people. It is partly because they are the reserve force of our revolution, namely, its heir. It is also partly because education is the most important element in social progress."

Whereas no institute of higher learning was found in the north of Korea, there are now 170 today, under which are more than 10,000 schools of lower levels and some 60,000 kindergartens. The total enrolment is a staggering 8.6 million, a half of the population.

Korea is now "a country of education" as the world public call it. More than 1 million locally-trained intellectuals are engaged in all fields of socialist construction. It will be not long before that the whole population acquires collegiate knowledge.

Prompt and free access to proper medical treatment makes the people really grateful to the socialist system. It is available at any place to anybody, regardless of sex, age, residence, occupation and quality and quantity of work.

The whole of the country is divided into numerous medical areas, each in charge of a qualified doctor for primary concern with prevention of diseases.

As a result, the average life expectancy now is 73 years, compared with 38 years in pre-liberation years. It is on the steady increase.

In bygone days, many Koreans thought life to be a continuation of suffering. It is now no longer the case, however.

The improved livelihood of the population does not necessarily suggest the rich resources of the nation.

The conditions that have permitted it are: foremost importance attached to the happiness of the population; the Juche policy of building an independent national economy; and the deep presidential love for them and the foresight into the future.

For instance, President Kim Il Sung advanced the original line of developing heavy industry on a priority basis while simultaneously undertaking the development of both light industry and agriculture as far back as the post-war rehabilitation period. The stabilization of the livelihood of the people was far from ignored in policy consideration.

Some local foes objected that any fund should be used to import food, not to finance the development of heavy industrial plants.

Dismissing their allegations as groundless, the great leader thought of the long-term welfare of the people and spent funds building the foundations of expanded reproduction.

Otherwise, the present self-supporting economy might have been out of reach. The Korean people could not afford to lead a happy life as they enjoy today.

The 5th Congress of the WPK was a forum where President Kim Il Sung set forth the three

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President Kim Il Sung is shown talking with farmers in February, 1960 when he visits Chongsan-ri, Kangso County, South Pyongan Province. The famous Chongsan-ri spirit and method originated with that place as a new approach to farming operations.

President Kim Il Sung looks at bags on display in July, 1980 during his on-the-spot guidance in South Hamgyong Province. His major concern is how to improve the livelihood of the population.

Chronological Table of President's Major Revolutionary Activities (1912-1981)

A 1976 file photo shows President Kim Il Sung and An Dal Su, Managing Chairman of the Sowon Cooperative Farm, Pyongsong County, South Hwanghae Province. An Dal Su was later elected Deputy of the Supreme People's Assembly and entitled Labor Hero.

By Kwon Ye Suk
Special to The People's Korea

Apr. 15, 1912
Born at Mangyongdae, as the eldest son of Mr. Kim Hyong Jik and Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, a poor peasant family. Both are indomitable anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who devote everything to the struggle for national independence and the liberation of the people.

Mar. 16-28, 1923
Leaves Pataokou for Mangyongdae and walks a thousand-ri-long way to learning.

Beginning of 1925
Crosses the Amrok River into northeast China, with strong aspirations for the re-grablishment of the fatherland.

Oct. 17, 1926
Organizes the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU), the first Korean revolutionary youth organization guided by Marxist-Leninist thought.

Oct.-Nov., 1928
Organizes and leads the struggle against the Kirin-Hoiryung railway project, a Japanese imperialistic scheme, designed for the invasion of the Asian mainland.

Jun. 30-Jul. 2, 1930
Calls a meeting of the foremost members of the Young Communist League (YCL) and Anti-Imperialist Youth League (AIYL) at Chisilun, and expounds the Juche-oriented line and policies for the Korean revolution.

Apr. 25, 1932
Founds the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army (AJGA), the first armed revolutionary force representing the Korean people. It is formed by progressive workers, peasants and young patriots, focussed around Korean Revolutionary Army men and the core elements of YCL and AIYL, all of whom he had trained for years.

Mar., 1934
Forms the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) by the reorganization of AJGA.

Feb. 27, 1936
Propounds a new strategic line designed to motivate a great upsurge in the Korean revolution, at the historic Nanhutou Meeting.
Scientifically analyses the internal and external situation then prevailing, and sets out the policy for greatly expanding and promoting the movement for an anti-Japanese national united front.

May 5, 1936
Forms the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland (ARF) and publishes its Ten-Point Programme, its Rules and Inaugural Declaration, all of which were drafted by himself.

Jun. 4 1937
Commands the historic Pochonbo Battle that instills confidence for national liberation among the Korean people.

Dec., 1938-Mar., 1939
"Arduous March" from Nanpaitzu to Changpai and re-advances to strategic areas along the Amrok River.

Aug. 10, 1940
Conducts the Hsiaochaerhpaling Meeting. Forwards the policy of preserving and constructing the revolutionary forces and training all the members of KPRA into an army of competent military and political cadres in preparation for the forthcoming great revolutionary event of national liberation.

Aug. 15, 1945
The great victory of the illustrious anti-Japanese armed struggle; defeat of Japanese imperialism; the liberation of Korea.

Oct. 10, 1945
Founds the Korean Communist Party and lays out the political and organizational lines for it.

Mar. 5, 1946
Proclamation of Land Reform Law.

Mar. 23, 1946
Announcement of 20-Point Platform.

Jun. 24, 1946
Labour Law proclaimed.

Jul. 30, 1946
Law on the Equality of the Sexes proclaimed.

Aug. 10, 1946
Law on Nationalization of Major Industries proclaimed.

Nov. 3, 1946
Organizes the first democratic election in Korea.

Feb. 20-22, 1947
Forms the People's Committee of North Korea, a first government under a proletarian dictatorship, proffering a line on building an independent national economy.

Feb. 8, 1948
Creates an invincible revolutionary armed force, the Korean People's Army (KPA), an army consisting of the sons and daughters of workers and peasants, together with revolutionary fighters President Kim Il Sung had trained in the flames of the anti-Japanese armed struggle as its backbone.

Apr. 20-24, 1948
Leads the Joint Conference of Representatives of Both North and South Korean Political Parties and Social Organizations.
Proposes a wise policy of opposing the nation-splitting manoeuvers of U.S. imperialism, frustrating the separate election scheme, and establishing a unified democratic government by concerted efforts of the whole nation.

Sep. 9, 1948
Foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Jun. 30, 1949
Merger of North and South Korean Workers' Parties; elected Chairman.

Jun., 1950
Advances a number of new reasonable proposal for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, meeting a phase of the situation growing more rampant in the war provocation manoeuvre of the U.S. imperialists.

Jun. 25, 1950
Armed invasion by U.S. imperialism and its puppets the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique against the northern half of the Republic. Commencement of the great Fatherland Liberation War.

1953
Enforces the system of universal free medical care.

Jul. 27, 1953
The great victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

May. 25, 1955
Formation of Chongryun (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan).

Apr. 23-29, 1956
Leads the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK).

Aug. 1, 1956
The execution of universal compulsory elementary school education.

Dec. 28, 1956
Conducts on-site instructions at the Kangson Steel Works.

Apr. 8, 1957
Remits the first instalment of educational aid funds and stipends to Japan for the democratic, national education.

Aug., 1958
A great victory for the original policy of the cooperativization; the completion of the agricultural cooperativization and socialist transformation of private trade and industry.

Dec. 1959
Initial repatriation of Koreans from Japan to the homeland.

Feb. 5-18, 1960
Gives on-the-spot guidance at Chongsan-ri, Kangso County, South Pyongan Province.
Creates the great Chongsan-ri spirit and method.

Sep. 11-18, 1961
Leads the Fourth Congress of the WPK.

Feb. 25, 1964
Publishes Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country.

Nov. 22, 1967
Election of Deputies to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly is held; seven representatives of Korean residents in Japan including Chairman Han Duk Su are elected Deputies.

Aug. 25, 1969
Foundation of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification.

Nov. 2-13, 1970
Leads the Fifth Congress of the WPK, a congress for the great victory for socialist industrialization.

Nov. 13, 1970
Elected as General Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Jun. 24, 1971
Delivers a speech–On the Youth Should Continue to Carry Out the Revolution Generation after Generation.

Apr. 14, 1972
Awarded the title of Hero of the DPRK over again.

Jul. 4, 1972
Elucidates the three-point principle of independence, peace and national unity as a national common programme of unification.
Announcement of the North-South Joint Statement.

Dec. 25-28, 1972
The First Congress of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly is held.
Elected as President of the DPRK.

Dec. 27, 1972
The Socialist Constitution of the DPRK published.

Apr. 9, 1973
Proclaimes the law on enforcing universal compulsory ten-year higher-secondary education and compulsory one-year pre-school education.

Jun. 23, 1973
Delivers a speech–Let Us Prevent Division of the Nation and Unify the Fatherland–at a Pyongyang mass meeting to welcome the party and government delegation of Czechoslovakia.
Elucidates the Five-Point Programme of Korea's reunification.

Aug. 31, 1973
Delivers a speech–On the Task of the Chongryun Educational Workers.

Mar. 21, 1974
Proclaimes the law on eliminating completely a taxation system.

Apr. 18-26, 1975
Visits the People's Republic of China.

May 22-26, 1975
Visits the Romanian Socialist Republic.

May 26-Jun. 2, 1975
Visits the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic.

May 30-Jun. 1, 1975
Visits the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Jun. 2-5, 1975
Visits the Bulgarian People's Republic.

Jun. 5-9, 1975
Visits the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Apr. 29, 1977
Proclaimes the Land Law of the DPRK (the enforcement in Jan. 1, 1977).

Sep. 5, 1977
Announces a classic work–On the Theses on the Socialist Education.

Dec. 15-17, 1977
The First Congress of the Sixth Supreme People's Assembly is held in the presence of President Kim Il Sung as President of the DPRK (Dec. 15). Delivers a speech–Let Us Further Strengthen the People's Power.

Oct. 10-14, 1980
Leads the historic Sixth Congress of the WPK. Puts forward the unification proposal that the country should be reunified by founding a Confederal Republic through the establishment of a unified national government.

Oct. 14, 1980
The First Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Party Central Committee is held.
Elected as the General Secretary of the CC of the WPK.

Aug. 26-31, 1981
The Symposium of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production is held in Pyongyang.

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tasks of the technical revolution: the elimination of the difference between industrial and agricultural labor and that between heavy and light labor and lessening the housekeeping chores of housewives.

Since, a remarkable progress has been made in the improvement of the working conditions and helping women to play a greater role in society.

Ambitious 10 long-term economic objectives were unveiled at the 6th Congress of the WPK.

They would double or treble industrial product in important items and radically raise the popular living standards.

The DPRK is currently reputed throughout the international community as "a model country of socialism," "a country of real popular happiness" and "a country of female liberation." It is no accident that there is a growing tendency within Third World states to learn from the experience of the DPRK.

The happiness of the people in the north is insufficient to leave President Kim Il Sung satisfied.

His thought always goes to the south Korean people and fellow countrymen.

The principal reason why he advocates the most workable plan for reunification for each stage of the issue is his resolve to free the south Korean people from their misery as early as possible and let the whole nation live on reunified territory.

On the presidential initiative annually large sums of state funds have been allocated for remittance to Japan to help finance the education of Korean young people in this island country. Special care has been shown for the life of resident Koreans here.

Presidential Portrait As Drawn by Foreigners

Gentle, Broad-Minded Man with Attractive Personality

Kuno Chuji, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan, contributed an article to The People's Korea on the occasion of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung. His first visit to the DPRK was ten years ago or 1972. He met the President for three times in the past ten years. Follows the article:

Mr. Kuno Chuji

Well-arranged paddy fields. Water ways of the Pyongnam Irrigation run through the fields. (South Pyongan Province)

I clearly remember the day when I met President Kim Il Sung for the first time even though it was ten years ago or in January 1972. I am a politician but when I met him, I was tense. He is a revolutionary who liberated the country and a great politician who fought in the Korean War and reconstructed the country and has been promoting its present construction. So, it was natural that I was tense when I met him for the first time. However, while talking with him I realized that he was different from the man I had imagined. He was a gentle and friendly person, not a strict man.

At that time, there were signs showing the downfall of the Sato Cabinet in Japan. I myself was also prevented in many ways from going to the DPRK. But I pushed aside these obstructions and flew to Pyongyang.

President Kim Il Sung who knew well about the situation in which I had been in Japan, frankly received me so that I could relax myself. Since I was so attracted by his broad-minded personality, I told him about Japan's domestic problems, including the scheduled election of a president of the Liberal Democratic Party to which great attention was being paid in Japan. problems I did not plan to talk about with him.

My second meeting with him was in 1976 when the poplar tree incident occurred which made the situation on the Korean Peninsula tense. I visited Panmunjom aboard a special helicopter and looked down at it from the sky. I could also see a panoramatic view of the heavy and chemical industrial district which extended along the Taedong River and well-arranged agricultural fields from the helicopter.

Forty-five years ago, when I was engaged in construction work, I once visited that area to investigate it. The things I could find there then were only bald mountains and red soil. No green area could be seen.

However, 45 years after that, the area was changed into green areas where big factories stood along the river. In addition, fields were well arranged so that all arable land there was used for agriculture in such a way that paddy fields were found in the lower areas and maize fields on the hills. Irrigation channels which started from the Taedong River ran into all the fields where large farming machines were being operated.

"Why do you produce so much maize?" I asked an official of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (KOS). He answered, "Of course, we grow more than enough. We export surpluses to many countries which do not have enough food."

Last year, the Korean Peninsula suffered severe damage due to the cold front. In south Korea, 2 million tons of grains were said to be short, and Japan exported 500,000 tons of old rice to it in April last year. Even though the DPRK suffered the same cold front, it exported food, while south Korea barely met its domestic demand for food with food imports from foreign countries. This difference clearly indicates the DPRK's attitude toward construction.

This once-devastated but now rich land which is cultivated by the Korean people with sweat on their brows, is the result of the great efforts of the people who are closely united around the President. I remember well that I was deeply moved when I saw a result of the President's leadership from the sky.

When I visited the country in 1976, I had an unforgettable experience. I love taking pictures. If I were not a politician, I would become a photographer. At that time, I went around Pyongyang City, carrying 4 cameras. When I came back to the hotel I found that a W. German-made camera which I had been using for 20 years, was lost. I had to leave Pyongyang the next morning but I did not even know where I had lost it. I told this to an official of the KOS, not expecting that the camera would turn up again. But after a while, a primary school pupil reported the camera to the hotel.

This was a wonderful experience. There are not many countries in the world where lost cameras are returned to their owners. I praised the child who reported the camera he had found, not taking it as his own, as a "hero of Korea." This made me respect more deeply the President who leads the people and educates children to do so.

Last year, our family visited the DPRK. Before our departure my wife did not agree to go there as she had a bad image about Korea which she had got before World War II. So, I first persuaded my granddaughter to visit it. She repeatedly told my wife to go there with her. At last, she reluctantly nodded her head. However, after the visit, her impression of Korea was completely changed. She was strongly impressed by the Korean people who were pushing ahead with the construction of their country.

What surprised my granddaughter, a primary school pupil, was the fact that there was no trash found in cities. First, she threw away trash and spewed out chewed gum on roads. Even seeing her doing so, I ignored this. However, two or three days later she asked me, "Grandfather, why don't the people of this country throw away trash on the road?" Instead of answering her, I asked her, "Do you clean your room?" She said to me she did. I said to her, "Public places such as roads, parks and squares which many people use are more important places than private rooms. The people of this country take good care of such public places because other people would have trouble if they are dirty."

After that, my granddaughter changed very much. She became less selfish and she came to live in a disciplined way. Seeing her, I thought that children would be well educated if they were given school, family and social education in a balanced way. I think it will be wonderful if many Japanese children visit the DPRK as envoys to promote friendship between Japan and Korea.

In the past ten years I have met President Kim Il Sung three times. He always looked young. I once asked him about the secret of his youthfulness. He said with a smile that his secret was to work, always thinking about Korea's reunification and the country's prosperity and world peace.

I visited many countries where I found different characteristic features from which I learned a lot. Even comparing with all these countries, the DPRK has a special characteristic feature which makes it completely different from others.

Japan once learned a high culture from Korea. The Korean people are superior people who created a great culture. They have developed a special culture such as we can not find in China, the Soviet Union or in Japan.

If Korea is developed as a unified country, it will greatly contribute toward peace in the world as an unprecedentedly wealthy country. I think the country will be the best country in the world when all the Korean people work together for its prosperity under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung. For this, too, I heartily wish the President long life.

General at Home

This is an article written by Mrs. Kobayashi Kazuko, formerly Hagio Kazuko, a housewife. Born in northeastern China, she was on her way back to Japan via Korea when Japan was defeated by the U.S. Just after the liberation of Korea, she, then 16, and her sister Masue, then 19, and their girl friend Tomihama Ryoko, then 19, stayed in Pyongyang for a year. Miss Hagio and Miss Tomihama happened to work at the home of the then General Kim Il Sung as maids.

Mrs. Kobayashi Kazuko

Our stay at General Kim Il Sung's home lasted only for about 4 months, providing a glimpse at the home, made me think about the equality of people and love for people. It was particularly because we Japanese had been educated for a long time to believe that the Japanese were superior to the Koreans and Chinese.

First of all, everyone who reads this story must wonder why we Japanese who were enemy of the Korean people happened to become maids for the General's house.

Mrs. Kim Jong Suk (Mrs. Kim Il Sung), whose parents and brothers and sisters had been killed by the Japanese, often said that she wanted to know about the Japanese people more because hatred for Japanese imperialism sometimes turned her against the ordinary Japanese people. So, she called us to her home, she stressed.

Without knowing her intention, Miss Tomihama and I visited the General's home in July 1964. It was a one-storied wooden house with a green roof and a white stone gate. We seldom felt there that we were employees. This was because the General and Mrs. Kim treated us as their family members. The General's family consisted of the General himself, his wife and two children, four in all. Mr. Kim Jong Il was about 4 years old then, I remember.

We did not have many chances to see the General who was busy every day. We met him for the first time on the day we visited his home for the first time. When we were cleaning the gate we heard cars stop in front of the house. Four to five men came toward us. First coming was a big man with a broad smile on the sun-tanned round face. He was the General whom we knew with his portraits.

After a while out of curiosity, we passed by the dining room as if we had to do so. We heard his low voice asking Mrs. Kim whether we ate something or not. We smiled, looking at each other as we were hungry. The dining room faced the courtyard. The General's silver chopsticks and spoons, and his other tablewares had been inscribed "Anti-Japanese Fighter Kim Il Sung," like his portraits hung on the wall. They must be presents from the people in recognition of his services. Even though we were hungry because of food shortage, we felt we became full quickly when Mrs. Kim told to eat much.

At home the General was a warm-hearted and broad-minded man. He and his wife really trusted and loved each other. Moreover, he loved his children very much, even though he did not come back home every day. He sometimes played hide-and-seek with the children. If I found him hiding during the game, he hushed me, putting his finger on his mouth and giving a wink to me.

One afternoon, when we were repapering shoji (papered doors), Mrs. Kim brought a housewife whom she knew and said to us, "You worked very hard. How much money do you want for your work?" Plainly speaking, we never thought ourselves employees. They were all kind and treated us as we were staying with our relatives' house. We just thought we were having a happy time there, for which we even thanked them. We never expected money.

Seeing the scene from the dining room, the General came to us and said. "Don't worry. We have money." Something made us sad and, with flushed cheeks, we just repeated, "No thank you. No thank you." The General soon seemed to understand our feeling. He stared at us with his big black eyes, putting his big hands on our heads, nodding. Then he went away.

We have another unforgettable episode. One day, at about 11 a.m., we saw the General enter his bedroom in pajamas. Since we rarely had seen him in pajamas at such a time, we thought that

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President Kim Il Sung and Sierra Leone

By Edward M. N. Lamin

It is said that comfort and personal security are not sacrificed voluntarily for the sake of others by ill-disposed people.

Presidential Sacrifice

President Kim Il Sung sacrificed everything into order to secure, for the Korean people who were undergoing untold suffering in the hands of Japanese imperialists, freedom, independence, justice and human dignity.

In his early years as a boy, he had to leave his native Korea for China where, even under the most difficult situation, he was able to organise his countrymen in preparation for their just struggle against the Japanese colonialists. Into this task the Korean leader threw his whole energy and fertility of resource. He never rested or faltered until the long and weary struggle was won.

Among his compatriots in China, he showed traits of remarkable leadership. His sincerity and honesty of purpose earned him the respect and trust that were needed for his great and herculean exercise that lay ahead.

That the battle against the Japanese imperialists was won under the guidance and undisputable competent leadership of Marshal Kim Il Sung was undoubtedly a great achievement for any leader as indeed it was for President Kim. His fine performance in politics and soldiery is an example worthy of emulating not only by Koreans but for all those who are fighting for freedom, independence and justice. Surely, no life is more satisfactory than one of selfless service to one's country and to humanity.

Struck by Sincerity

I still can recall the two-hour meeting we had with President Kim Il Sung in the DPRK's capital, Pyongyang, in 1971 as members of a goodwill government and Party delegation. After that meeting – that historic meeting – I was, like other members of my delegation, left without the slightest doubt, about the sincerity of this world great leader in his honest desire for the reunification of his fatherland. And I must say without fear or favour that the reunification of Korea would have been achieved long ago but for the presence of foreign troops from the United States of America in that country.

No Foreign Troops in North

There are no foreign troops in the North – the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Why then should there be foreign troops in the south? If the so-called rulers of the south enjoy, as they claim, the confidence of their people, why the foreign troops?

Indeed world pressure must be made to bear upon the United States of America to withdraw its troops from the south. It is clear to even the political epileptic as it is to all peace-loving people of the world, that the presence of troops from faraway U.S.A. in the south is the hindrance to a peaceful reunification of Korea. I cannot see how any negotiation of the south with the north can be achieved peacefully in the presence of foreign troops in any part of that country.

Backing the Wrong Horse

Both the "rulers" of the south and their American friends ought to have learnt by now a lesson from the pages of the recent history books about Vietnam. No amount of foreign aid, military or otherwise, can be given to a puppet regime to suppress its people indefinitely without public resentment. It will only be a matter of time. But as one reader wrote in the American weekly magazine, Newsweek of September 13, 1971, it is true indeed that "the United States has along an unenviable record of backing the wrong horse . . ."

However, the sooner it is properly understood by the Seoul "Government" that the security and prosperity of the Korean people lie in their own hands, the better it will be for themselves and all those concerned.

It is impossible to suppress the feelings of the people, all the time, even with the most powerful foreign backing. If one does, again I say, it will be only for a time. Recent events in south Korea ought to have served as a good warning.

Reunification by Koreans

As Marshal Kim Il Sung has himself said, "There may be various ways and means of accomplishing national unification. But, whatever the concrete ways and means may be, the country must in any case be unified independently by the Korean people themselves, and this cannot be otherwise." The great leader went on to say that the Korean question was not a question to be decided by foreigners in New York or Washington but should be discussed in Pyongyang or Seoul by the Korean people themselves. Can anything be more reasonable and sensible or nearer the truth?

It is fervently hopes that the peace-loving peoples of the world will continue to lend their unqualified support to the forty million Koreans under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung, in the noble task of unifying their country, peacefully. This can be done in many ways, one of which will be to insist very vigourously upon the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Korean Peninsula. The role of the Korean people under Marshal Kim Il Sung's leadership in world affairs and in particularly the struggle of those who are fighting for their independence and freedom from colonial rule and against economic imperialism, makes it incumbent upon all of us to give the Korean people all that they require for the unification of their fatherland.

Support to Sierra Leone

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, under the indefatiguable leadership of President Kim Il Sung, has sufficiently demonstrated, that in addition to its support for countries still fighting for emancipation, it has also given thorough and absolute moral and material aid to countries which have had to consolidate their hard-won political freedom and independence.

My own country Sierra Leone established diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the year 1971. Since then, our two peoples and our two Parties – the Workers' Party of Korea and the All People's Congress of Sierra Leone, together with their two governments, have enjoyed enviable relationship. Sierra Leone has had substantial material and moral support from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea since.

Again, I recall the encouraging and inspiring words spoken to us during our first visit to that country as a Party and Government delegation by Comrade President Kim Il Sung: "The proclamation of a Republic in Sierra Leone is an important event marking a new turning point in the struggle of your people for liquidating the evil aftermaths of the colonial rule of imperialism and securing the independent development of the country and constitute a heavy blow to the imperialists."

To consolidate national independence and build a prosperous society, the Government of Sierra Leone has set up new mining companies, while increasing state shares in the mining and diamond companies, and is unfolding a struggle for self-sufficiency in food, under the slogan: "Without an everlasting economic freedom, one cannot develop into an everlasting political freedom."

And at a rally organised by the citizens of Pyongyang, the following statement was made: "In March last, the Sierra Leone people under the leadership of His Excellency hatched by the imperialists and their accomplices, the reactionaries, and thereby safe guarded the national independence with honour and proclaimed a Republic on April 19."

As I have already mentioned the above were indeed, inspiring and heartening words which have helped our Party and people over the years to have successes over their enemies.

In addition, there have been exchange visits between high-ranking members of our two Parties, the All People's Congress and the Workers' Party. This too is a significant step pointing to the special relationship which has existed between our two peoples and two governments over the years.

Prayers for His Long Life

While joining the millions of our brothers and sisters of Korea and the world in celebrating the seventieth birthday of President Kim Il Sung whom I regard not only as the great leader of the Korean people but as undoubtedly one of the greatest world leaders, we in Sierra Leone do so by paying homage to the noble efforts of this diligent and industrious leader in promoting world peace and international order. We wish him continued good health and take this opportunity of assuring him, most sincerely, of our continued support for the Korean people in their just struggle against the presence of foreign troops on their soil, the eventual expulsion of those imperialists troops and the subsequent unification of the fatherland.

Long live Comrade Kim Il Sung! Long live the friendship between the Korean people and other progressive peoples of the world!

(Edward Lamin is a Member of the Governing Council of the Central Committee of the All-People's Congress of Sierra Leone)

(Continued from page 4)

he must have gone to bed very late last night. Mrs. Kim called us to his room. The General was sick. He lay on the bed in the curtained room. Since we once had worked at a pathological experimental room of an army hospital, Ryoko felt his pulse. She found he had a quick pulse and a high fever. "You have a high fever. Shall I call a doctor?" I asked the General. He nodded no. We still worried about him and said, "We have medicine at our dormitory. We will bring it tomorrow." Next day, bringing aspirin with ourselves, we called on the General in his bedroom who was breathing hard with a red face. He drunk it with a glass of water passed on from his wife and closed his eyes painfully. His eyelids were double. By looking at the General ill on bed, I was choked and just prayed for his quick recovery.

He drunk aspirin offered by us Japanese without any suspicions. We once again pledged not to betray his trust in us whatever happened.

We became closest to Mrs. Kim Jong Suk among other members of the General's family. The more we knew about her, the more we were attracted by her modesty, and frankness. Her eyes were black and shining. Her smiling face was charming. She was only 150 cm in height, but she was a sharp shooter. She never was puffed up.

She washed and ironed all the General's clothes by herself. She also cooked very speedily whenever visitors came. She had meals with employees including us and chauffeurs. She always said, "Food tastes best when people eat together." She ate cold rice, too, as we did. Her way of living was equality, I thought.

One afternoon, three months later, when we were chatting with Mrs. Kim, my sister Masue came to us, panting. "Japanese will leave home this evening. So, they want the General to give them passes," she said at a breath.

The General who happened to be at home at that time, noticed the unusual situation. He heard my sister speaking. The General asked us whether we should go back to Japan, running a risk, though it was clear that we would be able to go back more easily in the future. In that case he offered an airplane for our return to Japan. However, the fact that all the Japanese in Pyongyang would leave there made us lonesome.

After a while, he said that he could not stop us from eagerly wanting to meet our parents in Japan. He left us to do as we liked. He also strongly added, "Before, we never trusted others except our compatriots and comrades. I'm very glad to know that you. You and we could trust each other."

Sitting on the floor, we just wept profusely. When we left there, Mrs. Kim gave us as much as black bread, grape sugar and rice we could carry and filled our bags with MPC's.

This was 31 years ago. Even though I was not strong enough, I could meet my parents safely. I think this is entirely thanks to the General who had allowed us to stay at his home.

After returning to Japan, I have wanted to tell the General about our living here. So, in the autumn of 1971 I asked Mr. Komori who went to Pyongyang with the then Tokyo Governor Minobe Ryokichi, to pass my letter to the General. The General was very much pleased to receive my letter, I was told.

Now the General is 70 years old. I am very glad to know that he is in good health. I sincerely wish for his long life and for the continuing prosperity of the DPRK.

Part of the Chollima Street, Pyongyang, showing both modern and Oriental feelings

Scores of Years of Tireless Efforts for Negotiated Reunification

By Kim Jong Myong
Special to The People's Korea

President Kim Il Sung and his Government have made every possible effort for the negotiated settlement of the question of Korea's reunification.

Way back in March 1948, the then Chairman Kim Il Sung, at a meeting of the Central Committee of the North Korean Democratic Front, proposed to elect an All-Korea Supreme Legislature on a democratic principle to endorse a constitution and set up a democratic government.

A proposal for free travels of personages between the north and the south was made at the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary of the August 15 Liberation in 1955. The proposal also was for interchange in economy, culture, science and art.

The 15th Liberation Day in 1960 was utilized to propose general elections throughout Korea and a north-south confederation as a transitional step, pending the complete reunification of the country.

Early in the 1970s when the north-south dialogue started, the historic three principles and five-point policy of national reunification were laid down.

In the 1972 north-south joint communique, they agreed to have the country reunified independently, peacefully and on a basis of national unity.

A historical bi-system reunification plan was unveiled at the 6th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in October 1980, a package program offering to protect foreign stakes in south Korea after reunification.

The presidential initiative has been taken in proposing meetings and negotiations among representatives of political parties, social organizations and individual persons from the north and the south as a step toward the independent and peaceful reunification.

In his speech made at the Pyongyang mass meeting in welcome of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk on Aug. 6, 1971, he made clear Pyongyang's readiness to negotiate, at any time, with political parties, public organizations and individual personages of south Korea.

His overtures led to north-south dialogue which resulted in the publication of the historic North-South Joint Statement. With the publication of the joint statement, the basic message of which is the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity. The three principles which still stand today became the nation's single bilaterally-agreed common programme of reunification endorsed internally and externally.

Flexible Policies

On many occasions, Pyongyang has committed itself to the non-use of force and called for a non-boat negotiated settlement.

In the late 40s, 50s and an early 60s, the conditions in two parts of Korea could permit the merger of their governing machines, a factor which made President Kim Il Sung propose it.

In the late 60s and 70s, the difference between them became conspicuous to the point where at first only a loose provisional confederation was thought feasible, pending complete reunification.

But in the 1980s, the situation became further different, warranting an entirely new approach. The proposed bi-system reunification plan absolutely rules out the establishment of a single and uniform social, political system except one confederal government.

The future plan to establish socialism in the south has been abandoned for good.

The reality in Korea has no chance of any successful common general elections any longer.

The domestic and international conditions call for Koreanism-first policy, as they carry a strong risk of being exploited by big powers for their selfish purposes. The danger is real that Korea will lose its existence, becoming their victim.

In a show of compromise, Pyongyang talked even with Gen. Pak Jung Hi whom it considered responsible for the crackdown on democracy in south Korea.

In the 80s, magnanimity was shown toward Gen. Chon Du Hwan, mastermind of the Kwangju massacre. Pyongyang carefully studied his "proposal" and told him that his apology for the massacre and sincere commitment to reunification could win its consent to talks. To its regret, so far, such sincerity has not been expressed.

President Kim Il Sung gets together with ultra-rightist nationalist Kim Gu who crossed the 38th parallel to attend the North-South Joint Conference. (April, 1948)

▲ President Kim Il Sung, together with Mr. Li Yong, former Chairman of the south Korean New Progressive Party, walks onto the platform of the Conference of the Foundation of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland. (June, 1949)

◀ Seoulites enthusiastically welcomes Pyongyang's Red Cross delegation, a sign of their unanimous will to unite with northerners. (September, 1972)

▼ Mr. Choe Dok Sin, former south Korean "foreign minister" and now Chairman of the Paedal National Council, speaks at the Nov. 3-6, 1981 Vienna Conference for Korean Reunification by Christians in the DPRK and abroad.

Leader and Korean Nationals in Japan

By Kang Ok Su
Special to The People's Korea

The 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung is drawing near.

Korean residents in this country are now busy with the preparation for heartily congratulating the birthday of the President.

A large number of precious and hearty presents, helpful to the socialist construction, to the President have been prepared by the Korean communities and organizations of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan). Among them are from Mindan ("ROK" Residents Association in Japan) – affiliated Koreans.

As in the past, congratulatory groups are visiting the DPRK.

Now some 700,000 Koreans are living in this country. Over 85% of them are the second and third generation, whose parents or grandparents were forced to come to Japan during its colonial rule of Korea.

Over 90 percent of the Korean nationals are from the southern part of Korea. By occupation, they are largely businessmen of small and medium enterprises. They are not socialists or communists. Why have such ordinary Korean residents supported the socialist DPRK led by President Kim Il Sung, not the capitalist system in south Korea?

During Colonial Days

During Japan's colonial rule (1910–1945), Koreans were deprived of their land and were prohibited from using their language and even their real names. As a homeless people their lot was terrible and miserable. Several millions were taken to Japan, drafted as soldiers and laborers for munition plants, mines, and construction sites. They were forced to do the most dangerous work. Some came to Japan for seeking livelihood, no longer available in Korea.

In this island nation the Koreans suffered from all sorts of racial discrimination and humiliation, making Koreans keenly desirous of restoration of their homeland – an end to their tragic situation. This desire was met in the person of President Kim Il Sung.

During the colonial days of Korea, the liberation struggle was staged by Koreans within and without the homeland. President Kim Il Sung's 15-year anti-Japanese guerrilla armed struggle in Manchuria gave great encouragement and hope to the Koreans in Japan. They were disappointed with "nationalists" indulged in factional strife.

For the overseas Koreans his triumphant return to the homeland brought the bright future of their homeland and their destiny.

After Liberation

Immediately after the liberation of the country, most of the Koreans returned to the homeland, mainly to its southern part.

However the situation created in south Korea under the U.S. control–economic bankruptcy, social unstableness and an appearance of the puppet "government" – made those Koreans left in Japan tilt to the President Kim Il Sung-led northern half of Korea.

And the south Korean authorities showed no particular concern to the question of the Korean nationals in Japan. Rather, they attempted to use the issue as political dealings with the Japanese government, while the DPRK paid deep attention and took necessary steps. This caused most of the resident Koreans to support the DPRK, though they were from south Korea.

Since the liberation President Kim Il Sung was concerned about the situation of the overseas Koreans.

What he stressed is to keep national identity even in the foreign country.

On Dec. 13, 1946, an open letter "To One Million Compatriots" was made public by President Kim Il Sung toward the Korean nationals in Japan. In the letter he suggested the basic task of the Korean nationals and stressed that his authorities were on the side of the Korean nationals in Japan.

The decision of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee No. 139 "On the Korean Repatriates from Japan" (formulated on Dec. 26, 1946) was adopted and warm care were paid to the repatriates.

On Sept. 9, 1948, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was established, which gave to the overseas compatriots citizenship of a free, sovereign country.

President Kim Il Sung met the Korean representatives from Japan on Jan. 12, 1949 and touched upon defending their democratic national rights as overseas compatriots of the independent, sovereign state and educating their sons and daughters with the Korean language.

Thus President Kim Il Sung and his Government have been the center of unifying compatriots.

The first organization of the Korean community in Japan (the League of Koreans Residing in Japan) was established in October 1945, whose action policy was to contribute to the construction and prosperity of homeland. Joryun was disbanded in September, 1949 by the Japanese authorities led by the U.S. occupation forces.

The establishment of Minjon (the United Democratic Front of Koreans in Japan) in January 1951 followed Joryun's dissolution. However, Minjon was drawn in a wrong direction and disbanded in 1955.

Formation of Chongryun

The DPRK government saved the destiny of the Korean nationals in Japan.

The DPRK President gave a clear-cut receipt for the movement of Korean nationals here on how to tide over its difficulties. His points were: to engage in patriotic activities for the fatherland, though the Koreans living in Japan were living in an alien country; not to interfere in the internal affairs of Japan; to engage in defending their democratic national rights and promoting of the national reintegration.

Then came the formation of Chongryun on May 25, 1955 with the firm Juche-motivated stand put forth by the President.

Chongryun is a unified front enlisting Koreans in all walks of life. The movement of Chongryun is for keeping the Korean cultural identity and not for helping being assimilated into Japanese society as a minority.

Since the formation of Chongryun, the movement of the Korean nationals have kept the Juche-oriented stand. It has served to defend the democratic national rights of the Koreans in this country, to contribute to the socialist construction of the fatherland and acceleration of the reunification of the country, and to strengthen the international friendship and cooperation with the people the world over including the Japanese people for the peace of the world.

The President leads the Chongryun organization and the Korean nationals in Japan along the right path.

He has sent New Year messages to the Korean compatriots through Chongryun every year and guides the movement. He warmly received homeland – visiting Korean nationals, when he taught them what they should do.

When the Korean's nationality question arose in Japan in 1960s over the south Korea-Japan negotiations on concluding the "ROK"–Japan Treaty and status agreement (concluded in 1965), the DPRK Government proclaimed its Nationality Law (on Oct. 9, 1963), provides for the clearly defined legal status of Korean citizens in Japan as citizens of the DPRK and declares that it will defend their rights and interests.

It was also reaffirmed in the Socialist Constitution adopted in December 1972.

Thanks to the measure of the DPRK Government, representatives of Korean residents are elected to the Supreme People's Assembly even though they are living in an alien land. Educational aid funds and stipends have been remitted to Japan on 83 occasions from 1957 in pre-war difficult situation in the DPRK, to a total amount of ¥32,086, 227,033 for the development of the Korean's education.

State decorations and other orders have been awarded to Chongryun activists and resident Koreans.

The repatriation service opened in 1959; more than 100,000 Koreans have returned to the DPRK, which gave the Japanese and people the world over a start as "exodus from the capitalist society to the socialist society," or "reverse-course migration."

Today Chongryun has its head office, 49 local headquarters, more than 300 chapters and some 2,000 branches throughout Japan. Its member organizations are 13 of youth, women, businessmen, scientists, and Buddhists organizations, etc.

Chongryun runs 154 regular schools from kindergarten to university, where the Korean language is used.

Chongryun has newspaper office, where a Korean daily, 3 Japanese bi-weekly and English, French and Spanish weeklies are published. A news agency and publishing companies are also managed by Chongryun. Various kinds of periodicals are brought out.

Chongryun has its own financial agencies, which number 37 Korean credit associations, their head offices and about 161 branches, with over $3.4 billion deposits.

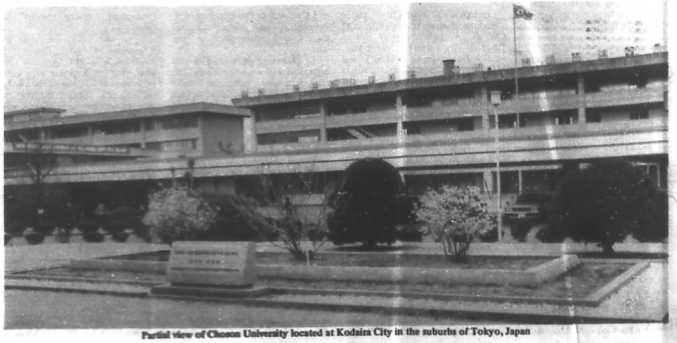
Chongryun has its own art troupe and soccer team, which engage in cultural activities among Koreans and cultural exchange with Japanese people.

Chongryun, with close ties with the DPRK, emerged as guardian of the resident Koreans.

Korean nationals in Japan, having kept their national identity, lead a proud life as overseas citizens of the DPRK and engage in Chongryun's movement for the country's reunification.

Children at a Korean school in Japan are learning in a Korean way

A building of the Korean Credit Association in Japan located at Yoyogi, downtown Tokyo



Partial view of Chosen University located at Kodaira City in the suburbs of Tokyo, Japan

Foreign Policy Conduct—Independence, Friendship & Peace

By Cho Sang Ok
Special to The People's Korea

The DPRK led by President Kim Il Sung enjoys an ever higher international prestige as a dignified non-aligned, socialist industrial power in Asia.

Every year, a fairly large number of foreign leaders pay official visits to the DPRK in parallel with several hundred government and non-governmental delegations.

During last year alone, 8 state leaders and 2 former presidents made official visits to the DPRK and more than 100 countries sent their missions to Pyongyang. In reciprocity, Pyongyang's various delegations, toured over 100 countries.

☆

Pyongyang hosted the Aug. 26-31 1981 Symposium of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on Increasing Food and Agricultural Production. The delegations and delegates from 81 countries and 14 international organizations attended the gathering.

Achievements

This year's first three-month period has seen a new vigor in DPRK foreign policy conduct: 4 special presidential envoys and 15 party and government delegations toured 50 countries.

Last year, Pyongyang was host to the non-aligned food and agricultural gathering which drew delegations from 81 countries and 14 international organizations. The League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea entertained 183 delegations from 130 countries to its 7th Congress.

The DPRK has currently its diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with 107 countries. Just 10 years ago ~~their~~ number was only 30. The present number includes Australia, Thailand and Ethiopia which took part in the 1950-53 Korean War as allies of the United States.

Pyongyang is a member of over 150 international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO) May 17, 1973 and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) April 28, 1973.

The DPRK was admitted as a full member of the non-aligned movement at the Foreign Ministers' Conference of Non-Aligned States held in Lima, capital of Peru, on August 15, 1975.

The solidarity movement supporting the national reintegration is on a regional or international scale.

The World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was held three times since the first meeting was held in Brussels in February 1978 and the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was formally inaugurated in June 1978.

Last year saw more than 33 meetings organized in over 20 countries of the world for Korean reunification and in support of a new proposal to confirm the divided country through an establishment of a bi-system Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

Juche – Working Compass

Such high standing of the DPRK in the world community is due to its active foreign policy conduct based on the Juche idea.

President Kim Il Sung states:

"Through vigorous foreign activities developed under the banner of independence, our Party has strengthened the international solidarity of our revolution and considerably extended our country's international relations."

The Juche idea, which views that man is the master of everything and decides everything, attracts the peoples of many newly-liberated countries. Because "The Juche idea indicates the way for the popular masses to accomplish the cause of national, class and human emancipation and build an independent and creative life on their own efforts." (The Pyongyang Declaration adopted at the International Seminar on the Juche Idea held in Pyongyang 1978), not a few peoples of the world try to apply the Juche idea to their own situation.

Juche calls for independence to be upheld in international relations as a necessary logic stemming from its philosophical basis.

Reflecting the world-wide moves to study the Juche idea, groups for the study of the idea have mushroomed in all parts of the world. Last year alone, over 17 international seminars were organized in 12 countries.

Various kinds of foreign visitors, including heads of state of non-aligned and other developing countries, have toured Pyongyang to learn its independent policy based on the Juche idea and sound experience in various fields of politics, economy and culture as "a model non-aligned, developing country."

One of major aims of African leaders in meeting with President Kim Il Sung is to get his knowhow on resolving food and agricultural questions, the vital ones for most of those nations.

Principles

In his report to the WPK 6th Congress (Oct. 14) I secretary Kim Il Sung emphasized: "As in the past, so in the future, our Party will strive to maintain independence firmly in its foreign activities, develop relations of friendship and cooperation with many countries and guarantee universal peace and security. Independence, friendship and peace are the underlying idea of our Party's foreign policy."

● The major points of independent foreign policy are:

–To follow the policy in accordance with the specific conditions of the country and the interests of its people and to conduct external activities according to its own judgement and opinion.

–To neither allow foreign forces to trespass upon the interests of the nation or interfere in the internal affairs of the country.

–To observe the principles and ideas of the non-aligned movement and to make efforts to expand and advance the movement.

● Pyongyang's efforts have been to promote friendly relations with all countries which respect its sovereignty.

–To strengthen unity and promote friendly relations with the socialist countries, non-aligned states and all the newly emerging nations on the principles of independence and proletarian internationalism.

To establish amicable relations and promote economic and cultural interchanges with the capitalist countries in favor of its policy decisions.

Holding the principles and ideas of the non-aligned movement and making great efforts to advance the movement, the DPRK has been strengthening friendly relations with the above-mentioned nations.

Growing amicable relations with the capitalist countries are clear in foreign policy conduct in the first quarter of this year. The 62-day European tour made by Kim Yong Sun, Member of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea who visited 7 capitalist countries, and Premier Li Jong Ok's 14-day official visit to the three ASEAN nations Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.

Pyongyang also sends its representative missions to the U.N. in New York and Geneva and to the UNESCO in Paris, etc.

● The DPRK's anti-nuclear peace policy has gained a growing international patronage.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Asukata of the Japan Socialist Party in March last year agreed to mark out Northeast Asia as a non-nuclear peace zone. Chairman Asukata toured European countries in the end of March this year to agree with their leaders on an establishment of nuclear-free peace zone there to prevent Euroshima.

The Pyongyang Government advocates the following policies:

–To dissolve all military blocs.

–To abolish the military bases in other countries and to withdraw the foreign troops from them.

–To create nuclear-free zones and peace zones in many parts of the world and expand them steadily.

–To settle disputes between newly-emerging nations through negotiations between them in conformity with the interests of both sides and the cause of world peace.

Peace policy is relevant because on the Korean Peninsula over 1 million troops face each other across the DMZ – the resumption of hostilities is likely at any provocation, which will lead to global nuclear exchange.

It is remarkable that the DPRK is the sole country in Asia which has no foreign troops and stockpiles no nuclear weapons on its territory.

Pyongyang opposes being under nuclear arms and the stationing of any foreign troops on its territory.

In a series of treaties signed by President Kim Il Sung and the heads of state who visited Pyongyang last year, the DPRK called upon the countries concerned to observe the above-mentioned four principles to maintain world peace.

Walker Hill in Seoul Burned

A fire broke out at the Walker Hill, a pleasure resort on the river Han in Seoul on the morning of March 38 when the anti-U.S. sentiments were mounting there.

The Mar. 30 issue of the daily Dong-A Ilbo reported that though many fire engines were mobilized, the flames raged, licking the budding for an hour.

When the fire occurred, a terrible commotion took place at the pleasure resort with hotel facilities. Two persons got heavy burns.

The south Korean police authorities have not made public the cause of the fire.

Rodong Sinmun on Pusan Fire

Pyongyang's official paper Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea) said in its commentary dated Mar. 22 that the burning incident at the American Cultural Center in Pusan was "a demonstration of the unshakable will of the south Korean people to fight to the end" against the U.S., resolutely rejecting "the ruinous trend of U.S.-worshipping thinking."

The signed commentary entitled "Explosion of Rancor and Wrath against U.S. Imperialism" says:

Setting fire to the "American Cultural Center" and scattering of leaflets were an expression of determined resistance against the U.S. imperialist aggressors persisting in the policy of occupation of south Korea and in the policy of split and war, an eruption of the anti-American sentiments pent up for a long period in the hearts of the south Korean people and a manifestation of their patriotism and firm will to drive out the U.S. imperialists and restore national dignity and sovereignty at any cost.

The recent struggle showed that even under the dark military fascist repressive rule the south Korean people are not dead but are alive and are directing the spearhead of their struggle further against U.S. imperialism, the ringleader of aggression and plunder and the root cause of all misfortunes and hardships.

The attack on the "American Cultural Center" and the scattering of leaflets was not motivated by passing sentiments or impulse of a few persons but a reflection of the daily mounting anti-American fighting spirit of the entire south Korean people it is a logical result of the colonial reactionary rule of the U.S. imperialists over south Korea.

Through their bitter life experience the south Korean people have deeply realised that the U.S. imperialists are not "helper" or "protector" but an aggressor and the deadly enemy of the Korean nation. Patent proof of this was furnished by the setting fire to the "American Cultural Center" this time.

It is not accidental that the "American Cultural Center" in Pusan was set to fire this time after that in Kwangju was burnt in December 1980 amid the mounting anti-U.S. fighting spirit of the students and people in south Korea, the commentary notes, and continues:

Burning of the "American Cultural Center", one of the headquarters for ideological disintegration, was a just act of patriots determined to fight against the colonial rule of U.S. imperialism and for the nation.

Nevertheless, the Chon Du Hwan group, frightened at the mounting anti-U.S. fighting spirit of the people, mobilized the puppet police and even troops to launch "joint search operations" with the U.S. troops and kicked up the row of "wholesale crackdown and roundup" campaign.

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